



US006289319B1

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Lockwood**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,289,319 B1**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 11, 2001**

(54) **AUTOMATIC BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTION PROCESSING SYSTEM**

(76) Inventor: **Lawrence B. Lockwood**, 5935 Folsom Dr., La Jolla, CA (US) 92037

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **08/347,270**

(22) Filed: **Nov. 30, 1994**

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation of application No. 08/096,610, filed on Jul. 23, 1993, now abandoned, and a continuation of application No. 07/752,026, filed on Aug. 29, 1991, now abandoned, and a continuation of application No. 07/168,856, filed on Mar. 16, 1988, now abandoned, and a continuation of application No. 06/822,115, filed on Jan. 24, 1986, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 06/613,525, filed on May 24, 1984, now Pat. No. 4,567,359.

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ..... **G06F 17/60**

(52) U.S. Cl. .... **705/35**

(58) Field of Search ..... 364/408, 406;  
235/381, 380, 379; 705/35, 38, 4

(56) **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

4,333,152 \* 6/1982 Best ..... 395/152  
4,359,631 \* 11/1982 Lockwood et al. .... 235/381  
4,553,206 \* 11/1985 Smutek et al. .... 395/275  
5,146,404 \* 9/1992 Calloway et al. .... 364/401

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

Young, G, "Computer firm to help buyer, shop for loan", Washington Post, Virginia, Real Estate Section, Apr. 9, 1984 (Nexis™ Excerpts).\*

\* cited by examiner

*Primary Examiner*—Robert Beausoleil

*Assistant Examiner*—X. Chung-Trans

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Henri J. A. Charmasson; John D. Buchaca

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system for filing applications with an institution from a plurality of remote sites, and for automatically processing said applications in response to each applicant's credit rating obtained from a credit reporting service comprising a series of self-service terminals remotely linked via a telephone line to a first computer at the institution and to a second computer at the credit reporting service headquarters. Each remote terminal comprises a video screen and a video memory which holds image-and-sound-generating information arranged to simulate the aspect and speech of an application loan officer on the video screen. The simulated loan officer is used to acquire loan request data from the applicant by guiding him through an interactive sequence of inquiries and answers. The terminal is programmed to acquire credit rating data relating to the applicant from the credit rating service, and to use the data to compute the credit worthiness of the applicant and the amount which may be loaned to him. The approved loan information is then transmitted to the first computer for further processing by the financial institution.

**6 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**

